[8th August 1929

(b) who is entrusted with those duties now and whether Government are satisfied that he possesses the necessary qualifications?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The post of Socio-Economic Sub-Assistant has not been abolished but his designation has been altered to Inspector of Fisheries. Socio-economic work among fishermen in the Malabar and South Kanara districts is now attended to by this Inspector and two other Inspectors as part of their regular duties. The Government have no reason to believe that these Inspectors do not possess the necessary qualifications for the performance of duties assigned to them.

Appointment of an officer for organizing Fisheries schools.

* 136 Q.—Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the necessity of employing a separate officer trained in teaching for the purpose of organizing and examining all the Fisheries schools of the West Coast; and

(*b*) whether they propose to appoint another officer to look after the economic condition, co-operative societies and such other work of the fisher-folk?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the negative.

Industries

Purchase of 23 power drills by the Agricultural and Industrial Engineering department.

* 137 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that 23 power drills for boring have been purchased by the Agricultural and Industrial Engineering department;

(*b*) the cost of each power drill and the cost of maintaining each;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the use of power drills has so far proved a failure;

(*d*) if the answer to (*c*) be in the affirmative, why about 8 power drills have recently been purchased by the department; and

(*e*) whether the Government will lay on the table a report about the results achieved so far?

A.—(*a*) The Industrial Engineering section of the Department of Industries has a stock of 20 power drills inclusive of 8 purchased recently. The Agricultural Department has no power drills.

(*b*) The cost of each power drill is about £830, and the cost of maintaining a drill is about Rs. 100 per month.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Does not arise.

(*e*) An account of the boring operations conducted by the department will be found in the annual administration reports.

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know how many of these drills have been at work actually?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR:—"All the twenty."